

PROTECTION OF IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS
USING OPEN CRYPTOGRAPHY

Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention provides methods and apparatus to uniquely determine fabrication details associated with objects, such as identification documents, artwork and limited issue works, using open cryptographic techniques. A cryptographic signature is created using a private key. The private key is uniquely associated with fabrication details such as a workstation, operator, fabrication equipment, fabrication materials, etc. A public key corresponds with the private key; and therefore, the public key is associated with the fabrication details. Successfully decoding the cryptographic signature with the public key uniquely identifies the fabrication details.